

ROGER BERLINER COUNCILMEMBER DISTRICT 1

January 3, 2011

Mr. Art Holmes Director Montgomery County Department of Transportation Rockville, MD

Dear Director Holmes:

I am writing in support of constructing an interim pedestrian access point between Pearl Street and the Capital Crescent Trail in Chevy Chase. This location has been a problem for some time but I realize that there were right of way issues that complicated moving forward with a solution.

I do understand that the Planning Board, in approving the development project at 7300 Pearl Street, has been successful in working out the remaining issues that surround the development of this needed access point. I have visited this location and have seen that it is heavily used as an informal connection point. Students walking to B-CC High Schools, bicyclists connecting from the Capital Crescent Trail to the Bethesda Trolley Trail and walkers attempting to access the Bethesda Metro station all cross here. The bank that must be forded is eroded with deep roots and ruts thus challenging anyone attempting to use this access point.

My understanding is that the Department already holds monies from the Hilton Hotel project to be used for the construction of this interim solution. I hope that you can act on this project soon so that our citizens will not have to wait until the completion of the Purple Line and the new Capital Crescent Trail before enjoying a safe crossing at this location.

Thank you for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Roger Berliner

Chair

Transportation, Energy and the Environment Committee